IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Original). A method of reconstructing an original block of data, the data comprising at least one of audio data, video data, and a computer file, the method comprising:

accessing a plurality of data clips;

identifying matching sub-clips in two of the plurality of data clips;

aligning the two data clips at the matching sub-clips; and

appending the two aligned data clips and including a single instance of the matching sub-clip.

2 (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein appending comprises:

concatenating the two aligned data clips; and

omitting a second instance of the matching sub-clip.

3 (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the appending comprises:

substituting data in a first of the two data clips with data in a second of the two data clips.

4 (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the accessing comprises:

receiving at least one of the plurality of data clips over a communication link.

5 (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the accessing comprises:

retrieving at least one of the plurality of data clips from local storage.

6 (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying comprises:

performing digital signal processing operations upon the plurality of data clips.

7 (Withdrawn). A method comprising:

accessing a plurality of blocks of data, the data comprising at least one of audio data, video data, and a computer file;

performing digital signal processing operations to identify at least one first sub-clip which is substantially dissimilar in a first of the plurality of blocks than in a second of the plurality of blocks, and at least one second sub-clip which is substantially similar in at least two of the plurality of blocks; and

responsive to the digital signal processing operations,

copying the at least one second sub-clip to a golden block,

determining which of the first and second of the plurality of blocks has a first sub-clip that is superior to the first sub-clip of the other of the first and second of the plurality of blocks, and

copying the superior sub-clip to the golden block.

8 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 7 wherein:

the determining comprises identifying a sub-clip containing defective values.

9 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 8 wherein:

the identifying the sub-clip containing defective values comprises performing digital signal processing operations on sub-clips.

10 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 7 wherein:

the determining comprises performing a majority operation across corresponding sub-clips of the plurality of blocks.

11 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 7 wherein:

the identifying the sub-clip containing defective values comprises identifying a null sub-clip indicative of missing values.

12 (Withdrawn). An apparatus comprising:

a digital signal processor;

a content storage capable of storing a plurality of blocks of data, the data comprising at least one of audio data, video data, and a computer file;

a block manager;

a clip overlap comparator; and

a clip compiler.

13 (Withdrawn). The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising:

a communication interface capable of receiving blocks of data comprising at least one of audio data, video data, and a computer file.

14 (Withdrawn). The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising:

a level normalizer.

15 (Withdrawn). The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising:

an equalizer.

16 (Withdrawn). The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising:

a timbre adjuster.

17 (Withdrawn). A system comprising:

a network;

a plurality of data sources each including,

content storage storing at least one block of data, and

a communication interface coupled to the network;

at least one of the data sources further including,

a digital signal processor,

a block manager,

a clip overlap comparator, and

a clip compiler.

18 (Withdrawn). The system of claim 17 wherein the at least one of the data sources further includes:

a level normalizer; and

an equalizer.

19 (Withdrawn). The system of claim 18 wherein the at least one of the data sources further includes:

a timbre adjuster.

20 (Withdrawn). A method of restoring a data block, the data block including at least one of audio and video data, the method comprising:

identifying a plurality of data blocks each available from a respective data source coupled to a network; and

creating a golden block by,

analyzing sets of corresponding sub-clips from respective ones of the plurality of data blocks,

responsive to the analyzing, for a first given set of corresponding sub-clips which the analysis indicates are substantially similar, generating in the golden block a sub-clip substantially similar to the first given set,

responsive to the analyzing, for a second given set of corresponding sub-clips which the analysis indicates are not substantially similar, generating in the golden block a sub-clip substantially similar to a sub-set of the second given set.

21 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 20 wherein the analyzing comprises:

performing digital signal processing operations.

22 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 20 wherein the generating the sub-clip substantially similar to the sub-set of the second given set comprises:

identifying a majority of the sub-clips in the second given set as being substantially similar to each other; and

generating in the golden block a sub-clip substantially similar to the majority.

23 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 20 wherein the generating the sub-clip substantially similar to the sub-set of the second given set comprises:

identifying a most common sub-clip in the second given set; and

generating in the golden block a sub-clip substantially similar to the most common sub-clip.

24 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 20 wherein the generating the sub-lip substantially similar to the sub-set of the second given set comprises:

identifying one of the blocks as having a sub-clip which is more similar to other sub-clips in the one block, than corresponding sub-clips in other blocks are to other sub-clips in those respective other blocks; and

generating in the golden block a sub-clip substantially similar to the sub-clip which is more similar.

25 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 20 wherein the generating the sub-clip substantially similar to the sub-set of the second given set comprises:

identifying a null sub-clip in one of the blocks; and

generating in the golden block a sub-clip substantially similar to a sub-clip in another of the blocks.

26 (Withdrawn). A method of generating a golden master of an audio recording, the method comprising:

comparing corresponding instances of sub-clips of the audio recording from a plurality of sources of instances of the audio recording; and

for each respective sub-clip, generating a sub-clip in the golden master substantially similar to at least one corresponding instance of the respective sub-clip.

27 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 26 wherein the generating comprises:

identifying a most common instance of the respective sub-clip; and

generating the sub-clip in the golden master in response to the most common instance.

28 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27 wherein the identifying the most common instance comprises:

identifying a majority sub-clip.

29 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 26 wherein:

the comparing includes identifying an instance of the sub-clip having lesser audio distortion than another instance of the sub-clip; and

the generating includes creating the sub-clip in the golden master in accordance with the identified instance having lesser audio distortion.

30 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 29 wherein:

the audio distortion includes at least one of click, pop, wow, and flutter.

31 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 26 further comprising:

receiving the plurality of instances of sub-clips from the plurality sources over a communication interface.

32 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 31 wherein the receiving comprises:

receiving intact instances of the audio recording from the plurality of sources over the communication interface.

33 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 26 further comprising:

receiving, over a communication interface from the plurality of sources, a plurality of digital signal processing results representing respective instances of the sub-clips.

34 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 26 further comprising:

distributing the golden master over a communication interface.

35 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 26 further comprising:

altering an audio characteristic of a first sub-clip in the golden master to increase audio similarity of the first sub-clip to other sub-clips in the golden master.

36 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 35 wherein:

the altering includes at least one of normalizing level, equalizing, and adjusting timbre.

37 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 26 further comprising:

receiving an identification of the audio recording; and

using the identification in requesting the instances of sub-clips from at least one source.

38 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 37 wherein:

the requesting comprises requesting from remote sources over a network.

39 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 37 wherein:

the requesting the instances of sub-clips comprises requesting instances of the audio recording.

40 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 39 wherein:

the requesting comprises requesting from remote sources over a network.

41 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 36 wherein:

the sub-clips further comprise video data; and

the golden master further comprises video data.

42 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 36 further comprising:

indicating to external sources at least one known sub-clip and an identification of at least one desired sub-clip.

43 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 42 further comprising:

receiving a clip from an external source;

finding the known sub-clip in the clip received from the external source; and

responsive to the finding, obtaining the desired sub-clip from the clip received from the external source.

44 (Original). An article of manufacture bearing machine-accessible instructions which, when accessed by a machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 1.

45 (Original). The article of manufacture of claim 44 further bearing instructions which, when accessed by the machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 2.

46 (Withdrawn). An article of manufacture bearing machine-accessible instructions which, when accessed by a machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 7.

47 (Withdrawn). The article of manufacture of claim 46 further bearing instructions which, when accessed by the machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 9.

48 (Withdrawn). An article of manufacture bearing machine-accessible instructions which, when accessed by a machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 20.

49 (Withdrawn). The article of manufacture of claim 48 further bearing instructions which, when accessed by the machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 24.

50 (Withdrawn). An article of manufacture bearing machine-accessible instructions which, when accessed by a machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 26.

51 (Withdrawn).The article of manufacture of claim 50 further bearing instructions which, when accessed by the machine, cause the machine to:

perform the method of claim 35.

52 (Withdrawn). A business method comprising:

publishing an identification of a block of data, the data including at least one of audio and video data;

receiving a plurality of instances of the block from a plurality of persons;

creating a golden master of the block by selectively extracting best sub-clips from the plurality of instances of the block; and

rewarding at least one of the persons.

53 (Withdrawn). The business method of claim 52 wherein the rewarding comprises:

making a financial payment to at least one of the persons, from whose instance of the block at least one sub-clip was extracted to the golden master.

54 (Withdrawn). The business method of claim 53 wherein:

the financial payment is made to a person from whose block a largest number of sub-clips were extracted to the golden master.